

NORTH STAR MENNONITE CHURCH

204 Francis Street, Drake, SK S0K 1H0

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Pastor: Dan Graber Phone: (306) 363-0011

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Pastor's office hours: Tuesday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon

December 3, 2017

Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Advent 1: Let it be

Gathering...

Welcome and Announcements

Call to worship:

Leader: Awake! The invitation to carry light comes from the God of trembling mountains and shaking foundations.

All: O God, your expectations terrify us. How can our small selves hold your blazing presence?

(pause for silence)

Leader: Quiet our questioning souls.

All: Lead us beyond our resistance. Let it be.

Lighting of Advent candle

On Jordan's banks the Baptist's cry HWB #183

Hark! the glad sound HWB #184

Opening prayer

Praising...

O come, O come, Immanuel HWB #172

Offering

Let the children come to me (while children leave)

Hearing God's Word...

Wisdom & Wonder Drama

Scripture: Isaiah 64:1-9; Mark 13:24-37; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Meditation: "Come on Down!"

Responding...

Longing for light STJ #54

Confession: (Unison)

O God of power and might, we want you to tear open the heavens and come down, yet we tremble and quake at the thought. We confess that even though we know your light, we do not like the dark, empty void where your Spirit hovers over the waters. We shake like leaves in the wind, fearful of what you might ask, afraid to trust you completely. Caught up in the swirling of our world we struggle to "let it be." Forgive us, O God

(pause for silence)

Words of assurance: (Worship Leader)

O God, Emmanuel, in Jesus, the Christ, you have come among us. You have given us life, and we are restored.

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer

HWB #348

Sending...

Benediction

The peace of the earth be with you

STJ #77

Meditation – Dan Graber

Song Leaders – Jim & Eileen Ewert

Sound – Peter Nicholson

Worship Leader – Floyd Bartel

Accompanists – Worship Team

Ushers – Amy Wildeman, Willis Jantz

LAST SUNDAY

Attendance – 81

Offering – \$5270.50 (2028.00 for budget)

Sent to Canadian Foodgrains Bank - Rohingya Refugee Crisis \$6150.00

NEXT SUNDAY (Second Advent)

Meditation – Donna Friesen

Worship Leader – Irene Bartel

THIS WEEK AT NORTH STAR:

Wednesday, December 6

6:00-8:30 p.m. – Volunteer pricing at the Thrift Store. This will be the last evening pricing session until the spring.

Friday, December 8

7:30 p.m. – St. Peter's Chorus Advent Concert at North Star. They will also have a concert at St. Augustine church in Humboldt at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, **Dec. 10**. Free will offering accepted on behalf of the Lanigan and District Food Bank. For more information see poster or go to www.stpeterschorus.ca

Saturday, December 9

7:00 p.m. – Piano Recital for students of Amy Ewert at North Star.

Everyone welcome.

NORTH STAR NOTES:

- We wish God's blessing on Stephen Banda as he travels to Zambia to be married to Lusungu Mvula on Saturday, December 16. The Church Service will be held at Anglican Cathedral of Holy Nativity, at 10:00 a.m. and the reception party at Izu Hall in the evening (6:00 p.m.). Both events will take place in the city called **Ndola, Zambia**. He will be returning in the new year but his wife will not be able to return with him until her visa is approved, which may take some time.
- Our sympathy is extended to the Schroeder families on the passing of their father, Eugene, on Nov. 30. Funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 4 at Philadelphia Menn., Watrous.
- There is an extra copy of Rejoice available. If interested, see Esther.

BEYOND NORTH STAR:

Saturday, December 9

RJC Gym Blast - Students from grades 6-11 are invited to a gym blast at RJC, featuring SK Roughrider Henoc Muamba. Registration to begin at 11:30 am. RSVP by **Thursday, December 7** to office@rjc.sk.ca or 1.303.232.4222

Sunday, December 10

2:30 p.m. – Saskatoon Men's Chorus presents "And On Earth Peace" at Grace Westminster United, Saskatoon. See poster and see Willis for tickets.

Sunday, December 17

8:00 p.m. – Sonrisa Women's Choir and A Buncha Guys concert at Shekinah Retreat Centre. Donations will go to support Shekinah.

Wednesday, December 20 & Friday, December 22

RJC Choir Christmas Concerts - Wednesday, December 20, 7:30 p.m. at Knox United Church, Saskatoon and Friday, December 22, 7:00 p.m. at RJC. Admission free; collection will be taken in support of RJC. Everyone welcome.

Friday, February 9-Saturday, February 10, 2018

The Mennonite Disaster Service All-Unit Meeting is being hosted by Region 5 (Canada) in Winkler, MB. This event is open to all who are interested in the work of MDS. For more information or to register for the event see our website mds.mennonite.net/all-unit-meeting or call Winnipeg office at 1-866-261-1274.

MINUTE FOR MISSIONS

Prayer request: Please pray that the new structures of the Mennonite Church Canada international ministry will find ways to involve our international partners in the changes that are happening.

MC Sask Connects: Advent at Home: Families with children: This week is the First Sunday of Advent and the beginning of "Yes! Let It Be!" a free, downloadable guide for family worship from Dec. 3 to Jan.6. Pick and choose the activities that work best for your family. Find it at www.anabaptistfaithformation.org.

Mennonites Learning Indigenous Theology. NAIITS is an Indigenous Learning Community that hosts annual theological gatherings intended for young and older, pastors and activists. MC Canada's Indigenous-Settler Relations would like to help sponsor a group of women and men from across our nationwide church to attend this year's symposium on "White Supremacy and Indigeneity," June 7-9, 2018 @ Acadia Divinity College (Nova Scotia). If you are interested, please email Steve Heinrichs for details (sheinrichs@mennonitechurch.ca).

Bill C-262 will be debated in Parliament following its second reading on December 5. Bill C-262 is a private member's bill that seeks to harmonize Canadian law with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. As a result of grassroots advocacy, the Government of Canada has just announced that they will be supporting Bill C-262. Active ways to be involved: pray, email a word of thanks to local Liberal MP's, and keep sending the free Walk the Talk postcards to all MP's (www.commonword.ca/go/1283).

L'Arche Saskatoon invites you to celebrate the launch of their cookbook, One Big Table: Recipes from Friends of L'Arche Collective Kitchen, compiled by Krista Loewen and Nancy Kube, December 9th, 7:30-9pm, at Mennonite Central Committee (600 45 St W, Saskatoon, SK). All proceeds go to the L'Arche Solidarity initiative.